

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 AID-20 L-03 MC-02 EB-11 IGA-02 SP-03 OMB-01

/081 W

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P 301532Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2468

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3662

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS CO

SUBJECT: FY 74 FMS CREDIT FOR COLOMBIA

REF: A) SECDEF 121841Z APRIL 1974 B) BOGOTA 3294
C) STATE 083897

1. MILGROUP COMMANDER CALLED ON GENERAL HAUZEUR,
SECRETARY GENERAL TO MINDEF APRIL 26, AND OUTLINED
POINTS RASIED REFTEL A.

2. GENERAL HAUZEUR DID NOT INDICATE ANY PROBLEMS
WITH PROPOSED AMOUNTS FMS CREDITS OR WITH
INDICATED PROCEDURES. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT
THE MINISTRY CANNOT MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS PRIOR
TO CONSULTATION WITH OFFICIALS OF NEW GOVERNMENT.
SINCE OFFICIALS WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH
MATTERS HAVE YET TO BE NAMED, SUCH CONSULTATIONS
ARE ABOUT THREE WEEKS IN FUTURE. ALTHOUGH
DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE MOST INTERESTED
IN FORMALLY CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT ALONG
THE LINES SUGGESTED, IT IS NOT IN THEIR
POWER TO MEET MAY 1 DEADLINE.

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3. WHILE I UNDERSTAND THE BUREAUCRATIC

NECESSITY OF MAKING DECISIONS AS TO ALLOCATIONS
OF THE FMS CREDITS, THE COLOMBIAN SITUATION IS BOTH
UNDERSTANDABLE AND UNAVOIDABLE. IT WOULD,
I THINK, BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF THE COLOMBIAN
LEVEL WAS AFFECTED BY THE FACT THAT COLOMBIAN
REALITIES COULD NOT FIT IN TO OUR ADMINISTRATIVE
REQUIREMENTS, AS JUSTIFIED AS THOSE ARE.
I INTERPRET THE SITUATION TO BE
THAT ACCEPTANCE BY THE GOC OF THE MIX RECOMMENDED
IS VERY LIKELY; IT SIMPLY CANNOT BE FORMALIZED
IN A COMMITMENT TO US AT THIS TIME. I THEREFORE
RECOMMEND THAT WE ACCEPT THIS LEVEL AND MIX FOR
OUR INTERNAL PURPOSES. WE WILL, OF COURSE, PRESS
TO GET FINAL GOC APPROVAL AND TRISERVICE LIST
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDIT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BOGOTA03662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740102-1137
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974044/aaaaactu.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) SECDEF 121841Z APRIL 1974 B) BOGO, TA 3294
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY 74 FMS CREDIT FOR COLOMBIA
TAGS: MASS, CO, US
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005